

PRESS RELEASEFor Immediate Release
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Media Contact: Georgia Ann Hudson georgiaann.hudson@archives.alabama.gov (334) 353-3312

FOOD FOR THOUGHT PRESENTATION ON AUGUST 17 AT 12:00 THOMAS GOODE JONES AND THE QUEST FOR RACIAL JUSTICE IN THE NEW SOUTH PRESENTED BY BRENT AUCOIN

Montgomery, AL (8/2/17) - Food for Thought continues another year of fascinating lunchtime lectures on the rich history of Alabama at the Alabama Department of Archives and History (ADAH) on **Thursday, August 17 at 12:00 pm**. Brent Aucoin will present **Thomas Goode Jones and the Quest for Racial Justice in the New South.**

One of the most notable Alabama politicians of the post-Civil War era, Thomas Goode Jones' career reflects the fascinating and unsettled history of Alabama and the Deep South at the turn of the twentieth century. A Civil War hero, Jones served as governor from 1890 to 1894, fighting tenaciously against efforts to disenfranchise African Americans. His efforts garnered the attention of Booker T. Washington and Theodore Roosevelt, who made Jones a federal judge in 1901. Although imperfect and unsuccessful, Jones's efforts are a reminder of the nuances of racial politics during this tumultuous period of Alabama's history.

Dr. Brent J. Aucoin is Professor of History and Associate Dean for Academic Affairs at The College at Southeastern, a school of the Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary in Wake Forest, NC. He is the author of the first comprehensive biography of Thomas Goode Jones entitled *Thomas Goode Jones: Race, Politics & Justice in the New South* (University of Alabama Press, 2016). A native of New Orleans, Dr. Aucoin earned a BA in History from Louisiana State University, an MA in History from Miami University, and a PhD in History from the University of Arkansas, where he focused on race relations after the Civil War. He currently resides in Wake Forest, NC with his wife and four boys. Copies of *Thomas Goode Jones: Race, Politics & Justice in the New South* will be available for purchase at the presentation.

Admission to *Food for Thought* presentations is always **FREE**! The public is invited to bring a brown bag lunch. Complimentary beverages are provided. **For additional information, call (334) 353-4689.**

Food for Thought 2017 is co-sponsored by the Friends of the Alabama Archives and the Alabama Humanities Foundation, a state program of the National Endowment for the Humanities.

The Alabama Department of Archives and History is the state's government records repository, special collections library and research facility, and is home to the Museum of Alabama, the state history museum. It is located in downtown Montgomery, directly across the street from the State Capitol. The Archives and Museum are open Monday through Saturday, 8:30 to 4:30. The EBSCO Research Room is open Tuesday through Friday and the second Saturday of the month from 8:30 to 4:30. To learn more, visit www.archives.alabama.gov or call (334) 242-4364.

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Alabama Department of Archives & History 624 Washington Ave. Montgomery, AL 36130 www.archives.alabama.gov